Office of Public Instruction

Educator Licensure Program

The OPI Legal Counsel provides legal advice and services to the State Superintendent and all divisions within the Office of Public Instruction and administers the Education Licensure Program. The State Superintendent is responsible for issuing all teacher, administrator, and education specialist licenses in Montana. This program ensures educators meet all state certification requirements to provide quality education for Montana's 148,356 school children. The program functions include:

- Issues and renews nearly 6,000 educator licenses each year;
- New system has allowed 1,333 teachers to renew their licenses online to date;
- Ensures the information database for over 24,000 licensed Montana educators is current and accurate;
- Responds annually to over 8,000 telephone calls, 10,000 email requests, 1,800 letter requests, and 300 office visits regarding educator licensure;
- Provides information to the public and news media regarding educator licensure trends;
- Updates the OPI Web site on the current certification status of all licensed Montana educators; and
- Approves providers of professional development and individual activities for license renewal.

